AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) Combination of R-4-trimethylammonio-3-(tetradecyl-carbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and met- formin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

2. (original) Use of the combination according to claim 1 as a medicament.

3. (original) Use of the combination according to claim 1 for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of type 2 diabetes.

4. (original) Use according to claim 3 for the preparation of a medicament with antidiabetic activity for the control of glycaemia over the 24 hour period.

5. (original) Use according to claim 4, where the medicament is useful for the control of glycaemia far from mealtimes, and in the postabsorption and fasting conditions.

6. (currently amended) Use according to ~~any one of claims 2-5~~ claim 2 for the preparation of a medicament with antidiabetic activity, said medicament being devoid of

the side effects typical of the individual components of said combina- tion or having only substantially reduced side effects of that type.

7. (original) Use according to claim 6, where said medicament is used for the treatment of diabetic patients for whom metformin is contraindicated or inadvisable.

8. (currently amended) Use according to claim 6 ~~or 7~~, where said medicament is indicated in patients suffering from one or more complications belonging to the group consisting of kidney damage, cardiac insufficiency, chronic liver damage, clinical proteinuria, peripheral vascular damage or lung damage.

9. (original) Pharmaceutical composition containing the combination according to claim 1.

10. (original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing subpharmacological doses of R-4-trimethyl-ammonio-3-(tetradecylcar- bamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and of metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, respectively.

11. (original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing pharmacological doses of R-4-trimethylammonio-3-(tetradecylcarba- moyl)-

aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and subpharmaceutical doses of metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts.

12. (original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing subpharmacological doses of R-4-trimetyl-ammonio-3-(tetradecylcarba- moyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and pharmacological doses of metformin or one of its pharmacologically acceptable salts, respectively.

13. (original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 9, containing pharmacological doses of R-4-trimetyl-ammonio-3- (tetradecylcarba- moyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and pharmacological doses of metformin or one of its pharmaco- logically acceptable salts, respectively.

14. (currently amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to ~~any one of claims 9-13~~ claim 9, containing R-4-trimethylammonio-3-(tetradecyl-carbamoyl)-aminobutyrate or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts and metformin or one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts in a single dosage form.

15. (original) Pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, where one dosage unit is suitable for the therapeutic coverage of the nocturnal fasting period.

16. (currently amended) Pharmaceutical composition according to ~~claims 9-15~~ claim 9, in which ST 1326 is present at a dose ranging from 10 mg to 1 g or an equiva- lent dose of one of its pharmaceutically acceptable salts, and metformin is present at a dose ranging from 50 mg to 2.5 g or an equivalent dose of one of its pharmaceutically equivalent salts.